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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 1, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SIR:

In order to comply with discretionary regulations 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449. Copies of such documents were made of record in the parent case, U.S. Patent Application No.: 09/988,962 filed November 19, 2001. These documents contain information which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

As this Statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action, no fee is due.

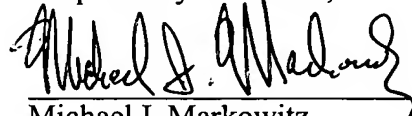
The present Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended

that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael I. Markowitz", written over a horizontal line.

Michael I. Markowitz
Reg. No. 30,659

Customer Number: 026304
Docket No: NECR 19.194A

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1449/PTO	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Application No. : Filing Date : First Named Inventor: H. TANABE Group Art Unit : Examiner Name : Attorney Docket No. : NECR 19.194A
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		
Sheet 1 of 1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document	Kind Code if known ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		4,528,480		Unagami et al.	07-1958	
		6,177,301		Jung	01-2001	
		6,184,541		Oka et al.	02-2001	
		6,479,837		Ogawa et al.	11-2002	

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Office ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Country	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY/Y	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		08-288515	JP	SHARP CORP	11/01/1996	
		10-041244	JP	SONY CORP	02/13/1998	
		11-125841	JP	SEMICONDUCTOR ENERGY LAB CO LTD	05/11/1999	

Other Prior Art-Non Patent Literature Documents

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), data, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, country, where published, source.	Applicant check her if English language translation attached
		ISHIKAWA, et al., "EXCIMER-LASER-INDUCED LATERAL-GROWTH OF SILICON THIN-FILMS", JPN. J. APPL. PHYS. PART 1, 1998, VOL. 37, NO. 3A pp. 731-736	
		ERIC R. FOSSUM, CMOS Image Sensors: Electronic Camera on a Chip, IEDM Digest, pp.17-25, 1995	
		R.H. Nixon et al. 128x128 CMOS Photodiode-Type Active Pixel Sensor with On-Chip Timing, Control and Signal Chain Electronics, 1995, The International Society for Optical Engineering; Proceedings of the SPIE, vol. 2415, pp.117-23	
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that Issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.1⁶ if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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